

Labor's Victory

The principles announced by the Peace commission in behalf of labor constitute a great victory for the toilers of the world. The nine clauses proposed by the commission of international labor legislation for insertion in the peace treaty as adopted by the Peace conference were made public by the State department at Washington. The following is the platform announced:

"The high contracting parties, recognizing that the wellbeing, physical, moral and intellectual, of industrial wage earners is of supreme international importance, have framed a permanent machinery associated with that of the league of nations to further this great end.

"They recognize that differences of climate, habits and customs, of economical opportunity and industrial tradition make strict uniformity in the conditions of labor difficult of immediate attainment. But holding, as they do, that labor remedies (probably error in transmission) be regarded merely as an article of commerce, they think that there are methods and principles for the ratification of labor conditions which all industrial communities should endeavor to apply so far as their special circumstances will permit.

"Among these methods and principles the following seem to the high contracting parties to be of special and urgent importance:

"First. The guiding principle above enunciated that labor should not be regarded merely as a commodity or article of commerce.

"Second. The right of association for all lawful purposes by the employed as well as by the employers.

"Third. The payment to the employed of a wage adequate to maintain a reasonable standard of life as this is understood in their time and country.

"Fourth. The adoption of an eight-hour day or a forty-eight-hour week as the standard to be aimed at where it has not already been obtained.

"Fifth. The adoption of a weekly rest of at least twenty-four hours which should include Sunday wherever practicable.

"Sixth. The abolition of child labor and the imposition of such limitations on the labor of young persons as shall permit the continuation of their education and assure their proper physical development.

"Seventh. The principle that men and women should receive equal remuneration for work of equal value.

"Eighth. The standard set by law in each country with respect to the conditions of labor should have due regard to the equitable economic treatment of all workers lawfully resident therein.

"Ninth. Each state should make provision for a system of inspection, in which women should take part in order to insure the enforcement of the laws and regulations for the protection of the employed.

"Without claiming that these methods and principles are either complete or final the high contracting parties are of the opinion that they are well fitted to guide the policy of the league of nations and that if adopted by the industrial communities who are members of the league and safeguarded in practice by an adequate system of such inspection, they will confer lasting benefits upon the wage-earners of the world."

That labor should not be regarded as a commodity or article of commerce is the most important of the declarations—it is the basis of all the others. The "right to organize," "reasonable wages," the "eight hour day," a "Sabbath rest," "abolition of child labor," "equal pay to women for equal work" and "adequate inspection"—these, taken together, work an unprecedented triumph for the wage-earners. They ought to go as far toward insuring domestic peace as the international covenants do toward guaranteeing peace between nations. Our nation and the world are to be congratulated no less than labor—it is a victory in which all have a part.

W. J. BRYAN.

WHY NOT MILK BOTTLES?

The bottle manufacturers, in national convention assembled, have declared against prohibition. They have been making four to five million gross of bottles yearly, and people should be permitted to drink so as to furnish a market

for bottles—that is wet logic. Why not make milk bottles? A considerable part of the money spent for drink will now purchase supplies for the family.

RISEN, NOT FALLEN

A Berlin dispatch reads as follows:

"Berlin, April 9 (Correspondent of the Associated Press).—A German professor figures out that the abdications and dethronements in Germany include 278 persons.

"Bavaria leads with one King, one Queen, 15 Princes, 16 Princesses, five Dukes and one Duchess.

"Prussia has sent 33 royalties into exile, including the Emperor, Empress, 20 Princes and 11 Princesses. Brunswick is at the bottom of the list, with only the Ducal couple and their three children.

"The two tiny principalities of Reuss, whose area is hardly one three-hundredth part of that of Prussia, has exiled 36 royalties.

"The principality of Lippe, only about 20 square miles larger than the Reuss states, had a royal family numbering 24 persons. Most extraordinary is the case of Schaumburg-Lippe, with its area of 130 square miles where there was nearly one royal personage for every five square miles.

"These included the reigning Prince, 17 Princes and several Princesses."

The members of the royal families doubtless feel that they have been condemned to live on a lower plane, but some of them may learn that democracy is above, not below aristocracy. They have risen—not fallen. They have been riding on the backs of the masses—they have lived on the toil of others. Most of them profess to be Christians—they may re-read their Bibles and find that, according to Christ's standard, greatness is measured by service—that men are great in proportion to what they GIVE—not in proportion to what they receive.

A DUAL REMEDY

The remedy for typhoid fever is found in inoculation that makes the patient immune to the disease. The remedy for yellow fever is found in the destroying of the breeding places of the mosquito that carries the germ of the disease. Alcoholism is a disease that has come down through the ages. A remedy has at least been found—a dual remedy. Total abstinence makes the individual immune to alcoholism and prohibition destroys the saloon—the breeding place of the influence that carries the germ of the disease. Having applied the remedy to our own country we will now carry the remedy to other lands. In time alcoholism, like typhoid fever and yellow fever, will cease to curse mankind.

WILL ITALY FORGET?

Italy showed some irritation of the President's refusal to consent to her taking of Fiume—her people even vented their anger in unfriendly demonstrations.

Will they forget the service rendered by the United States? ONE BILLION AND A HALF LOANED TO ITALY, and Italy rescued when the enemy had almost reached Venice. Our nation has been a very useful friend. It was this nation that secured the armistice and it did not include the transfer of Fiume when Italy agreed to it. On reflection Italy will doubtless conclude to join in promoting peace—Fiume would be likely to prove another Alsace-Lorraine.

THEY'VE HEARD FROM NEW ZEALAND

The wets in Australia are organizing to reform the saloon. They have heard from New Zealand where prohibition lost by less than 2,000 in a vote of nearly 500,000. But it is too late to REFORM the saloon. It cannot be reformed by those in the business, and the opponents of the saloon will not be content with reform—they insist upon complete prohibition.

The late war correspondents, now peace correspondents, seem to have about as much difficulty in agreeing upon what is going on in Europe and even at Paris as they did when they had battle news to send via the cable. It is a fastidious person indeed who cannot find in his morning paper the exact set of facts regarding conditions there that best satisfies his bias in the matter.

The League of Nations

The President has reason to be proud of the unanimous indorsement given to the League of Nations plan. It is a long step toward peace and will be ratified by the senate by an overwhelming majority, and in so doing the senate will reflect the almost unanimous approval of the country.

The league is based on the doctrine that war is not desirable and not necessary, but CAN be avoided and SHOULD be avoided. The league furnishes a SUBSTITUTE for war, the main features of which are the investigation of all disputes before resort to force, the reduction of armaments and the abolition of secret treaties.

The most serious objections made against the first draft have been overcome by amendments. The position of mandatory has been made optional, interference in domestic affairs has been specifically denounced, the Monroe Doctrine has been safeguarded and provision has been made by which any nation can withdraw on two years' notice.

It is better than we had any reason to hope for; our nation could not reject it without stultifying itself. The world moves forward, the United States leading the way, W. J. BRYAN.

A CASE IN POINT

On another page will be found a news item clipped from the Ohio State Journal (Columbus). It tells of the shooting of a drunken soldier by a drunken bar tender, and of the cripple wife and several small children. The home is described as "desolate," although the husband and father earned \$15 or \$20 a day—squandered his earnings in drink. And yet there are wet democrats who disgrace their party by trying to defend the saloon after it has been banished by the conscience of the nation! But the end is near—these hell-holes will soon be closed and even wet democrats will be free from the saloon's corrupting influence.

THE OLD WAY

There is no new way; it is the old narrow way. Temptations are the same that they were in the past in substance and the prodigal son of today tells a like story of husks and hogs to a father as anxious and as forgiving. A purpose in life is the first thing—an ideal high enough to keep one continually striving toward better things and willing to work and to wait—to let joys ripen before they are plucked. Christ is "that Way"—there is no other; He is the Truth—the highest truth; He is the Life—the only life.

Secretary of Labor Wilson, declaiming against the proposition that progress can be made in a democracy by the riotous process of cussing and shooting the man who doesn't agree with you, says that the only progress possible is by the peaceable process of discussion and voting, and adds that a man who cannot be depended upon to vote right cannot be depended upon to shoot right. The which sums up the debate between democracy and bolshevism without any extra language.

Secretary Carter Glass thinks the nation needs a blue-sky law so as to prevent the small investor from being the victim of the crooked stock company promoter and salesman. Mr. Glass is running the great and serious risk of having the personal liberty boys oppose this on the theory that this would interfere with the constitutional right of a man to throw his money away on anything he wants to.

It is time now for Col. George Harvey to be coming to the front and saying who must and will be the next candidate of the democracy for president. Here we are with the campaign only a year away, and the colonel saying nothing. As no theory that he has grown modest and retiring could possibly explain the silence, we pause for a reply.

The good Dr. Taft continues to give the republican party strong injections mingled with a few astringents and diuretics. He has less than a year left now in which to get the organization into condition to make a fight. The round robins have been putting so many possibilities out of business in recent months that the doctor's efforts may not be entirely without reward.